

Response to Restriction Requirement
Application No. 10/816,959
Attorney Docket No. 042324

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending. Claims 1, 2 17 and 21 have been amended.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group I (Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7) and Group II (Claims 2, 4, 6, 8 and 17-21).

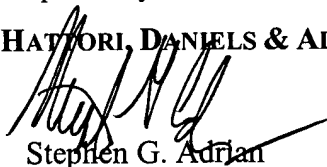
Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group I (Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7) for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, and it is understood that Applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §120 and 35 U.S.C. §121 are retained.

Upon allowance of the elected group, applicants request rejoinder of the non-elected claims since these claims directly or indirectly depend from claim 1.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Stephen G. Adrian

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32,878

Telephone: (202) 822-1100

Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

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